Amendments to the Specification:

1.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~FIG. 4A-B~~ FIG. 4A - 4B are flow diagrams illustrating a method for channel resource allocation according to a first exemplary embodiment of the invention.

2.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 5 is a diagram illustrating a first exemplary data structure for representing the OVSF code tree and supporting the method for resource allocation illustrated in ~~FIG. 4A-B~~ FIG. 4A - 4B.

3.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As is well known to ~~a person skilled in the art~~ a person of ordinary skill in the art, the channelization codes used for spreading are Orthogonal Variable Spreading Factor (OVSF) codes, which basically are orthogonal Walsh codes of different length.

4.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The OVSF codes C11-C88 at different levels in the tree 201 are of different ~~lenghts~~ lengths providing different spreading factor (the spreading factor defines the ratio between the output and input data rates of the spreading process) and bandwith. Codes higher up in the tree are shorter, have lower spreading factor and provide higher bandwith than codes at levels further down in the tree structure.

5.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~FIG. 4A-B~~ FIGS. 4A - 4B illustrate a first exemplary embodiment of a method for allocating channel resources employed in the communication system SYS1 of FIG. 1.

Allocation of channel resources in the form of OVSF codes is handled by a channel resource handler RH1 (see FIG. 1) in the radio network controller node RNC1. The channel resource handler RH1 is typically implemented as software executing on a processor in the radio network controller node RNC1. The channel resource handler RH1 allocates OVSF codes 102 in response to received channel requests 101.

6.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The spreading factor of the OVSF code.

7.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Different rules can be defined for how channel resources are allocated while considering the estimated time of release of the requested channel resource and ~~previosly~~ previously allocated channel resources. Thus, one example of an alternative to the rule applied in the first exemplary embodiment disclosed above, would be to divide the available candidate codes into candidate codes associated with parent codes which are ~~curently~~ currently available for allocation and candidate codes associated with parent codes which are currently unavailable for allocation, and then, among the candidate codes in the latter subset (i.e. available candidate codes associated with parent codes currently not available for allocation) select a candidate code associated with a parent code whose estimated time of becoming available for allocation is closest to the estimated time of release of the requested channel resource (regardless of whether said parent code will become available before or after said estimated release of the requested channel resource).